



Indicator 7: Preschool Outcomes Reporting Now in SD-STARS

New to SD-STARS is a suite of reports that look at federal reporting for Indicator 7 Preschool Outcomes. The SD-STARS team worked closely with members of the special education team who focus on early childhood programs.

"Including Preschool Outcomes reporting in SD-STARS allows the state to verify student submissions in the BDI 2 and Infinite Campus enrollments," said Wendy Trujillo, assistant director of special education. "This will allow districts to better monitor outcomes, identify areas to improve programming, and ultimately improve preschool outcomes statewide."

For 2017-18, these reports contain information that is similar, though not identical to, information that was reported to the federal government. "We encourage districts to start looking at SD-STARS for 2017-18 even if it isn't exactly the counts used for federal reporting," Trujillo said. "Over the next year, the department will be redoing our targets and training staff and districts in the new reports." For 2018-19, the SD-STARS reports will match the data reported to the federal government.

The primary source of data for the suite of Indicator 7 reports is the Battelle Developmental

Inventory 2 (BDI 2) assessment data. BDI 2 is an assessment that is given to children when they enter and exit the Part B 619 Program, which serves special education children ages 3-5 years old. For Indicator 7, only children who have both an entry and exit score in BDI 2 and at least six months of services between those entry and exit scores will be included in the reports. If children move, they are counted in the district in which they exited the Part B 619 Program. Once the reports are finalized for a year, the data is frozen and will not change for that year.

Three reports give districts the ability to view their Indicator 7 Preschool Outcomes results for the year. The first report, Child Outcomes Summary Form, provides the total number and percentage of children who fell within each of the five federally-defined categories for progress for the three child outcomes, the percentage of those children who met the summary statements, and whether the district met targets. This report should assist districts in viewing the results of the Indicator 7 Preschool Outcomes reporting and aid in answering questions such as, "Are child outcomes improving or declining in my district?"

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Top 10 SD-STARS reports accessed

The following SD-STARS reports have been accessed the most by users in schools and districts, from July 1-Dec. 31, 2018.

Report Name	Hit Count
AS.007.01-A – Assessment Feedback	453
AS.002.01-A – ACT Stoplight	376
EN.001.00-X – Enrollment Demographics	301
AS.005.01-A – Student Longitudinal Achievement	277
EN.003.01-A – Student Profile	140
AS.003.02-A – Assessment Detail Results	118
AT.002.00-A – Student Attendance List	113
AT.001.00-X – Attendance Demographics	103
EN.006.00-A – Mobility Report	97
EN.009.00-X – Special Education Trend	96

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About Us:

South Dakota STARS Connections is a bi-monthly publication for South Dakota administrators and teachers, produced by the South Dakota Department of Education. This publication is intended to communicate news and events regarding the South Dakota Student Teacher Accountability and Reporting System (SD-STARS), our Statewide Longitudinal Data System. To view an online edition of this newsletter, go to doe.sd.gov/publications.aspx. Email story ideas or questions to STARSHelp@state.sd.us.

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Upcoming training opportunities

Spring is an excellent time to join one of the SD-STARS webinars online! The SD-STARS team will provide the following training opportunities through the next two months:



Webinar registration links

SD-STARS Webinar (Topic: Preschool Outcomes Reporting)

Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2:00-3:00 p.m., CST

<https://southdakota.gosignmeup.com/public/Course/browse?courseid=12523>

SAM Training Webinar #3

Wednesday, Mar. 13: 1:00-2:00 p.m., CST

<https://southdakota.gosignmeup.com/public/Course/browse?courseid=12524>

Data use course offered this summer - Sign up now!

The South Dakota Department of Education is offering a data use course for educators this summer. The Fundamentals of Using Data for Educators course provides educators with the skills they need to analyze and use data to answer important questions to drive positive change in their district, school or classroom. The course begins May 30 and requires a one-day face-to-face workshop as well as some online work.

Participants choose from one of three locations. On-site days will be from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. local time. Participants who wish to earn a graduate credit need to

complete a final project. They will be given a week past the workshop date to finish the final project. It is not necessary to purchase a textbook or other material for this class. However, participants should bring a laptop that is able to browse the internet. Spreadsheet software such as Excel is also helpful for this class.

Although participation is free, graduate credits are available through the University of South Dakota at a discounted rate. One credit is available for the course. Those signed up for credit will also need to register with USD. They will receive an A-F grade.

Course information and registration

Fundamentals of Using Data for Educators - Rapid City

Thursday, June 13 - Western Dakota Technical Institute, Pennington Co. Community Rm (Library)
Registration: <https://southdakota.gosignmeup.com/public/Course/browse?courseid=12526>

Fundamentals of Using Data for Educators - Watertown

Tuesday, June 18 - Lake Area Technical Institute, Student Learning Center, Level 4
Registration: <https://southdakota.gosignmeup.com/public/Course/browse?courseid=12527>

Fundamentals of Using Data for Educators - Mitchell

Wednesday, June 19 - Mitchell Career & Technical Education Academy (MCTEA), Training Center
Registration: <https://southdakota.gosignmeup.com/public/Course/browse?courseid=12528>

Preschool Outcomes Reporting

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The second report, Part B Indicator 7 Child List, provides a list of children who are included in Indicator 7 Preschool Outcomes reporting. This report gives districts the ability to see the child's assigned categories and provides the child's entry and exit scores. By using this report, districts can see how many children fell into the "c" and "d" or "d" and "e" categories for each outcome. The table at the bottom of this page describes outcomes and categories that are used in these reports.

The third report, Children with No Assignments, provides a list of children who could not be included in Indicator 7 Preschool Outcomes reporting. This report allows districts to answer questions such as, "Why wasn't a child included?" The report includes program notes and final scores for each category. There are many business rules around

Indicator 7, especially regarding the program notes. These rules impact whether a child is included in final reporting. By giving districts access to this list, the hope is to improve the quality of data in the BDI 2 system.

If you are interested in further details about the reports, please consider reading the Report Data Interpretation Guides (DIGs) for each report. There are several ways to locate the DIGs in SD-STARS: (1) search for the DIG by the report name in the Content Library, (2) navigate to the STARS Reports Resource section in the Training Center and search for it, or (3) run the report and click on "Link to Report Data Interpretation Guide (DIG)" at the bottom of the report.

Please contact STARSHelp@state.sd.us with any comments or suggestions on these reports.



SD-STARS Help Desk

SD-STARS staff are a great resource. We want to support users in your district. Let us know your questions, comments and concerns by emailing us at STARSHelp@state.sd.us. We are happy to help!

State offices closed

The SD-STARS team will not be available on the following day, due to state offices being closed for Presidents Day:

Monday, February 18

We will be back in the office to answer questions and assist users Tuesday, February 19.

Key Terms	Description	Look for...	Definition
Outcomes	These are the three areas the BDI 2 assesses – positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships), acquisition and use of knowledge, and use of appropriate behavior to meet their needs.	Blue	<u>Positive social-emotional skills</u> (including social relationships)
		Green	<u>Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills</u>
		Orange	Use appropriate behavior to meet their needs
Categories	These describe how children are doing in each of the outcome areas. The categories are assigned by comparing the child's scores on the BDI when they first started receiving Part B 619 services to the child's scores on the BDI when they exited services.	a	Children who did not improve functioning
		b	Children who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers
		c	Children who improved functioning to the level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it
		d	Children who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers
		e	Children who maintained functioning at the level comparable to same-aged peers

Spotlight on dual credit reports

South Dakota's dual credit program allows high school students to enroll in the state's public postsecondary institutions and simultaneously earn credits toward their high school diploma and postsecondary degree or certification. Students in grades 11 and 12 may participate in dual credit coursework at a reduced price per credit in subject areas from auto body repair to world geography.

"Since the program's start in 2014-15, dual credit has seen a significant increase in utilization by districts," said Amber Rost with the South Dakota Department of Education. "With state funds supporting the program, the department needs information about course enrollment and completion to inform decisions and determine the program's outcomes."

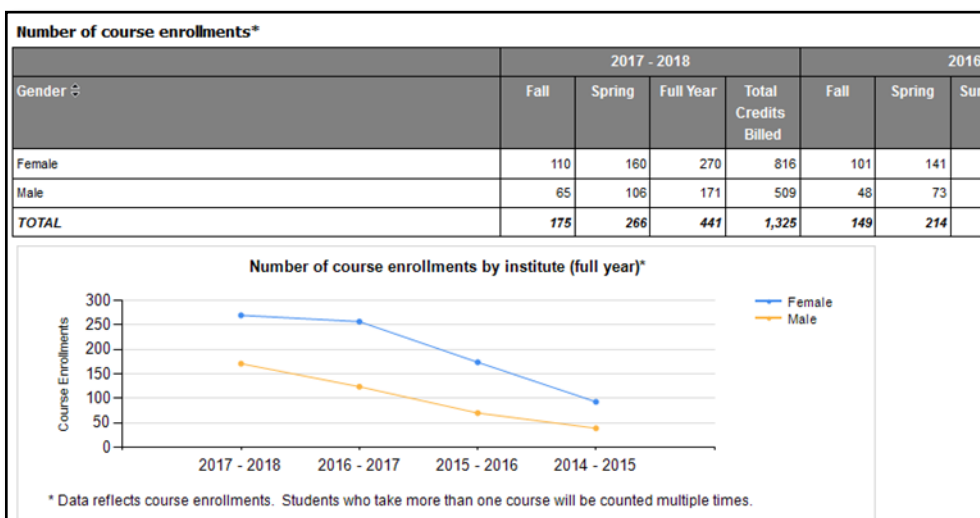
Four dual credit reports were created to help the

state and districts better understand how students are using the program. One report provides the number of course enrollments. Since a student can sign up for more than one course, another report counts the students who are enrolled. A third report looks at the average number of credits students take, and the fourth report looks at the pass rate for dual credit courses.

All reports can be filtered and grouped by

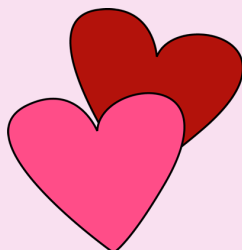
institution, student grade, race, gender, economically disadvantaged status, migrant status and special education status. "This allows the state and districts to look at outcomes for student groups," Rost said. "These dual credit reports can answer questions like, 'What is the average number of credits that juniors took last fall?' or, 'Are more students participating in dual credit over the years?'"

The four dual credit reports are available to users with superintendent, principal, assessment, district management and school management permissions in SD-STARS. These reports are sourced from the dual credit program offered by the department. Information on dual credits earned through private or tribal postsecondary institutions is not available via these reports.



STARS Certified Trainers

STARS Certified Trainers have been trained by Department of Education staff on SD-STARS and are kept up-to-date on system developments and new reports. Districts can contact trainers to request training at the district's cost.



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Important! New data loaded into SD-STARS

The winter local assessment data has been loaded for DIBELS and AIMSweb. Log into SD-STARS and view any of the reports under the Local Assessment Report category.

Please remember, only districts who have signed a permission form for SD-STARS to load their local assessment data will be able to see the Local Assessment Report category.

Ask the Experts

When I try to see the report card, it asks me to log in again. Why?

We are aware of a gray box that appears sometimes when users try to access the ESSA Report Card. Inside the box is an error message that prompts users to visit the SD-STARS login page. After selecting the link, the user is brought to the login screen. If the user logs in and tries to access the ESSA Report Card again, the same gray box appears with the same error.

This is an intermittent error. In other words, sometimes it happens and sometimes it doesn't. Our developers are working on the problem.

In the meantime, you can continue to try to connect to the ESSA Report Card by refreshing your page or trying to log in later. When the issue is resolved, we will send a message to our mailing lists, notifying that the gray box/connection issue is resolved.

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[Home](#) [My STARS](#) [Content Library](#) [Accountability](#) [Reports](#) [Training Center](#) [Admin](#)

In order to access this website, please visit SD-STARS at
<https://doestars.sd.gov/login.aspx>

San Diego School District Hacked

PTAC offers resources for districts

Any organization with electronic records is vulnerable to security breaches, and education agencies are no exception.

Officials in the San Diego School District announced in December 2018 that information on former students and employees may have been compromised in a data breach in January of the same year. Data include addresses, birthdays and social security numbers as well as health, discipline and grade information. The hackers likely used phishing emails to collect log-in information from district staff.

Phishing is when a person disguises themselves as a trusted entity in an email and asks for information like usernames and passwords. The email may look and feel legitimate, but it is not.

Phishers often disguise themselves as a bank, an employer or technology company like Apple, Microsoft or Google.

People can take steps to avoid being a victim of a phishing attack. Be suspicious of emails that ask for account verification if you are not expecting such an email. Don't trust any hyperlinks in a suspicious email. Sometimes the email may say "click here" or provide a link that looks legitimate. However, clicking on the hyperlink takes you to a different site. One way to check is to hover over a hyperlink in an email to see if it is legitimate or open a browser, go directly to a trusted link and log in from there. Look for information in the email that only legitimate entities would know. For example, phishers may

use a generic salutation ("Dear School District Employee"); whereas a legitimate email would more likely greet you directly ("Dear Sue").

The U.S. Department of Education Privacy Technical Assistance Center offers resources for districts to plan for a data breach. One resource is called the [Data Breach Response Training Kit](#). This kit includes a training exercise districts can use to prepare for a potential data breach. PTAC also provides a [Data Breach Response Checklist](#) that provides districts a checklist of critical breach response components and steps to assist them in building a comprehensive data breach response capability. For more information, go to <https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/>.

Ask the Experts

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I don't see any data for science in SD-STARS reports. Why?

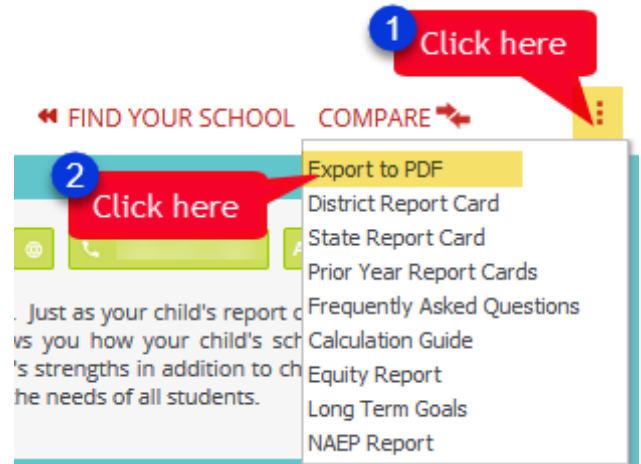
School year 2017-18 is the first year that assessment results for the new state science assessment (South Dakota Science Assessment (SDSA) and South Dakota Science Alternate (SDSA-Alt)), will appear in SD-STARS. The SD-STARS team is currently working on bringing the data into the reports that contain assessment data, which is mainly the reports listed under the Assessment category. Science data will appear as soon as this work is done.

My district/school needs to make the report card available to parents. What am I required to do?

Now that public reports cards are available, districts and schools are required to make the information available to parents and other stakeholders in the community. To meet this requirement, links to the report card page must be placed on the district website (at a minimum) and must be easy to find. Best practice would be to place a link on school-level websites as well. The link to include on the district/school websites is <https://sdschools.sd.gov>.

Districts and schools should also print the one-page summaries available for each school and keep these in the office for those parents and stakeholders who do not receive information electronically.

1. Go to <https://sdschools.sd.gov> and choose the district or school report card.
2. Click on the "hamburger" menu (three stacked dots). Then click on "Export to PDF."



3. In a new tab, a one-page PDF will open. Print.
4. If you have a school that has been designated as needing Comprehensive or Targeted Support, please also print the first page of the report card that is displayed on the screen as this shows the school improvement status of the school. See below.

If you have questions, please call your Title representative directly or call 605-773-6400 to be directed to your representative.

